

Remarks

Claims 1-6 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Amadera. Applicant has amended the claim 1 to affirmatively call for particulate. Amadera does not disclose, teach or suggest using particulate in an oral care device. Accordingly, Amadera cannot anticipate amended claim 1 or its dependent claims.

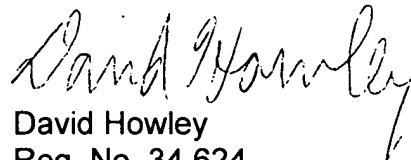
Claims 7-9, 13, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Hines. Applicant has amended the claim 7 to affirmatively call for a slurry. Hines does not disclose, teach or suggest using a slurry in an oral care device. Accordingly, Hines cannot anticipate amended claim 7 or its dependent claims.

Claims 14-21 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hines in view of Madsen and Otani. Claim 14 calls for "...a second conduit for conducting the slurry **and air** from the container..." As shown in Fig. 3, outlet 43 allows both the slurry and air to leave the container. In both Hines and Madsen, the outlet from the container is located at the **bottom** of the container, not the top. As such, only water in Hines and slurry in Madsen leave the container. Neither of these systems is designed to also allow pressured air to leave the container. Accordingly, claim 14 and its dependent claims are not obvious in view of these three references.

Claims 1-6 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blake in view of Amaders. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the features of cancelled claims 2 and 22. As claim 22 was not rejected over Blake in view of Amaders, amended claim 1 should now be allowable over these references.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that claims 1, 3-21 and 23-30 be allowed. Please contact the undersigned at the phone number below if a phone call would help to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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"Version with marking to show changes made"

In the claims:

Claims 2 and 22 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 3 and 7 have been amended as follows:

1 (once amended). An oral care device, comprising:

particulate;

a toothbrush including a head and one or more bristles extending from the head;

a handle from which the head extends; [and]

a conduit for supplying water, said particulate and pressured air to the head such that the water, particulate and pressured air can be sprayed onto the teeth from the head to enhance cleaning, wherein the handle includes a switch for controlling the flow of water, said particulate and pressured air to the head.

3(once amended). The oral care device of claim 1 [2], wherein the conduit is at least partially within the head.

7(once amended). An oral care device, comprising:

a housing;

an electric motor within the housing;

an air compressor within the housing and operated by the motor;

a slurry;

an enclosed container, attached to the housing, for holding [a] said slurry;

a first conduit for conducting compressed air from the compressor into the container; and

a second conduit for conducting the slurry and air from the container to an applicator from which the slurry and air is sprayed into the oral cavity of a human.